



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 06530.0276-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
 Marc O. SCHURR et al.)
)
 Application No.: 09/957,451) Group Art Unit: 3731
)
 Filed: September 21, 2001) Examiner: P. Roberts
)
 For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR)
 FOLDING AND SECURING)
 TISSUE)

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTAL
ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In reply to the supplemental Election/Restriction requirement dated January 13, 2004, the response to which has been extended to March 15, 2004, by the one-month Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, please amend the application as provided below:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks follow the claim amendment section of this paper.